

EDUCATIONAL EXAMINERS BOARD[282]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 272.2, the Board of Educational Examiners hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 24, “Paraeducator Certificates,” Iowa Administrative Code.

This amendment adds a possible area of concentration to the paraeducator certificate. The area of concentration will focus on paraeducators who work with students with vision impairments.

A waiver provision is not included. The Board has adopted a uniform waiver rule.

Any interested party or persons may present their views either orally or in writing at the public hearing that will be held Wednesday, August 18, 2010, at 1 p.m. in Room 3 Southwest, Third Floor, Grimes State Office Building, East 14th Street and Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

At the hearing, persons will be asked to give their names and addresses for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of the proposed amendment. Persons who wish to make oral presentations at the public hearing may contact the Executive Director, Board of Educational Examiners, Grimes State Office Building, East 14th Street and Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0147, or at (515)281-5849, prior to the date of the public hearing.

Any person who intends to attend the public hearing and requires special accommodations for specific needs, such as a sign language interpreter, should contact the office of the Executive Director at (515)281-5849.

Any interested person may make written comments or suggestions on the proposed amendment before 4 p.m. on Friday, August 20, 2010. Written comments and suggestions should be addressed to Kim Cunningham, Board Secretary, Board of Educational Examiners, at the above address, or sent by E-mail to kim.cunningham@iowa.gov, or by fax to (515)281-7669.

This amendment is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 272.

The following amendment is proposed.

Adopt the following **new** subrule 24.4(7):

24.4(7) Vision impairments—prekindergarten through grade 12.

a. Demonstrate knowledge of the impact of vision loss on learning and concept development for students who are blind and visually impaired.

(1) Demonstrate introductory knowledge of expanded core curriculum (ECC) and the ability to support ECC skills as directed by the supervising professional.

(2) Demonstrate introductory knowledge of functional vision assessments (FVA) and learning media assessments (LMA) of students who have vision impairments.

b. Demonstrate knowledge of and skills in technology appropriate to the needs of students with vision impairments.

(1) Operate and use assistive technology that supports students who have vision impairments.

(2) Support and strengthen each student’s capability to access and utilize assistive technology.

c. Demonstrate introductory knowledge of instructional strategies unique to students who have vision impairments.

(1) Demonstrate the ability to adapt educational materials using varied learning media as determined by student needs.

(2) Demonstrate an introductory knowledge of Braille in relation to identified or expressed student needs or both.

- (3) Demonstrate introductory skills in operating transcription software and equipment.
- d.* Demonstrate introductory knowledge of motor skills, movement, orientation, and mobility for students with vision impairments.
- e.* Demonstrate knowledge of the role of paraeducators in student plans including individualized education programs (IEPs) and individualized family service plans (IFSPs).
- f.* Demonstrate knowledge about and skills in fostering independence, self-determination, social skills, self-advocacy, and appropriate behaviors for students with vision impairments.
- g.* Demonstrate professionalism and ethical practices, including appropriate communication skills in relation to students with vision impairments and the students' service providers and families.